

Plan Employment Changes Soon at Kankakee Unit

A slight cut-back in production at the Kankakee Unit of Joliet Arsenal will result in lay-offs for some 400 employees of the United States Rubber Company, J. Scott Brown, manager, announced today.

Approximately 175 of the 400 persons who will be affected are presently engaged in production work; among the remaining 225 will be employees of the supporting departments whose services no longer will be essential under

the new production requirements.

LAY-OFFS will begin early in January, 1954, when the production schedules go into effect. About one in ten employees will be affected.

The Kankakee Unit of Joliet Arsenal—one of the nation's principal producers of TNT—is operated by the Naugatuck Chemical Division of the United States Rubber Company under a cost-plus-fixed-fee (limited profit) contract with the government.

Peak employment during the current operation which began early in 1951 was reached in August, 1953, when approximately 4,500 persons were employed there. Present employment is approximately 4,300.